**Description of Course.** Drawing on Medical Anthropology Ethnography, students will explore a variety of forms of healing among rural and urban indigenous communities. A particular focus on Intercultural Health will allow the students to analyze contemporary medical landscapes where patients encounter Indigenous and Western Medicine. Students will learn about the complexities of urban and rural indigenous healing settings and their sociopolitical significance in contexts of state biomedical interventions.

**Course assignments and requirements:**

1. **Attendance and class participation.** Attendance is expected and a necessary component of success for this course. Further, greater in-class engagement and dialogue among all of us creates a richer classroom experience. Students will be expected to complete assigned readings and actively participate in discussions.

2. **Students will have a team exercise focus on a Current Event.** During the second half of the class, each team (4 members) will choose a current event in Latin America that relates to Indigenous Medicines (Health/Illness/Treatments) and write a five-page report about it. The report should take up something that has happened in the last five years and discuss the context and history of the event, and the meanings it might have for the participants or other actors. How do the readings and discussions in class help you to think about the issue? Each report should include citations to at least three different news or media sources about that event and should analyze it in relation to the theoretical framework or argument from at least three academic sources (books or articles, it can be something from the syllabus or something else you find in your research). The Professor must approve your topic in advance and you must notify it by **Thursday Nov. 1.** The report will be due, by **Thursday, Nov. 29.**
3. There are two options for assessing students work in this class.

Students will decide in view of their own interest and communicate their decision to the instructor by Tuesday of week 3 (Oct. 9th)

Option A: Take-home Midterms (weeks 4, 7, and 10). Students' will have to write brief essays (1,000 words max.) answering questions (can choose 3 out of 5).

Option B: Research Paper. Students will work on a research paper during the quarter. Topic should be approved by the Professor.

4. The grades will be calculated as follows:

Attendance and Participation: 25%

**Team. Current Event Paper:** 25%
Current Event Topic (W6). 5%
Current Event Paper Outline (W7). 5%
Current Event Paper. 15% (W9)

**Option A: Take-home Midterms. 50%**

Take-home Midterm no. 1 (W4): 15%
Take-home Midterm no. 2 (W7): 15%
Take-home Midterm no. 3 (W10): 20%

**Option B. Research Paper. 50%**

Paper Topic -1 page. (W4): 5%
Paper Outline (W7): 10%
Literature Review (W9): 10%
(5 Scholarly sources min.)
Research Paper (W12): 25%
(8 to 10 pages)

**Readings:** All readings will be available as pdfs on the class TED site.
Class/Readings Schedule (Subject to Change):

**Week 1.**

**Introduction.**

**Sep 27.**
Indigenous Medicines in Latin America.

**Week 2.**

**Historical perspectives on Indigenous Medicines in LA**

**Oct. 2.**

**Oct. 4.**

**Week 3.**

**Bonesetters and Midwifes**

**Oct. 9.**


**Oct. 11.**
Week 4.

**Shamanism in Latin America**

**Oct. 16**

**Oct. 18.**

Option A. Take-home Midterm no. 1
Option B. Paper Topic


Week 5.

**Oct. 23.**

**Plants of Power in Indigenous Cosmovision**

**Oct. 25.**

Week 6.

**Oct. 30**

Nov. 1.

Team. Current Event Topic


Week. 7.

Nov. 6.
Documentary Film. Huicholes. Los Últimos Guardianes del Peyote/ The Last Peyote Guardians

Option A: Take-home Midterm no. 2
Option B: Paper Outline.

Nov. 8.
Documentary Film. Huicholes. Los Últimos Guardianes del Peyote/ The Last Peyote Guardians

Team. Current Event Paper Outline

Week. 8.

Interculturality and Diversity

Nov. 13.


Nov. 15.


Documentary Film. The Last Bonesetter. An Encounter with Don Felipe, dir. Adam Booher (Peru/US, 27m, 2015).
Week 9.

Modernity and Traditional Medicine

Nov. 19

Option B. Literature Review
Team. Current Event Paper


Nov. 22. Holiday- No class

Week 10.

Nov. 26


Nov. 29. Take-home Midterm no. 3


Week 11.

Regulation and Legitimation of Health Care Systems

Dec. 4


**Dec. 6.**

*Option B. Research Paper. Finals week*